

GOV. BECKHAM DEFENDS HIMSELF

Continued from page 1

that paper and of its editor and at the same time retain self-respect and the confidence of the people. Whom it cannot control, it seeks to destroy.

"Watterson attacked the personal character of W. J. Bryan; his attacks on Grover Cleveland were no less violent; he called Gov. Wilson, of New Jersey, 'a crook,' and so with many other distinguished men whom he disliked, or of whom he was jealous, he has poured upon them the vials of his vindictive and spiteful rage, in language frequently that only a drunken vulgarian would use.

'Suspicious' Praise

"He has for years suspected me of standing in the way of some of his absurd ambitions and consequently he has placed me in the illustrious ranks of those who have enjoyed the distinction of being the objects of his ennobling abuse. I can still lay claim to the confidence of the good people of Kentucky, inasmuch as for many years I have not subjected myself to suspicion, by having my name praised in the columns of his paper. Whenever a politician receives much praise from him, it is time for honest people to grow suspicious and to make an investigation of his character and associations.

"So far as my attitude in present political matters is concerned, I have no objection to frankly stating it.

"It has not been my purpose to take any active part in the contest in this State over the selection of delegates to the Democratic National Convention, or to encourage in the least, by any prominent participation in it, differences and dissensions within the party. I have seen no good reason why there should be no excitement or disturbance in Kentucky over the matter, or why the Democrats of the State could not have a convention that would peacefully, harmoniously and patriotically take such action as would commend itself to all good Democrats and aid in doing Kentucky's part toward achieving a great National victory next fall. It has seemed to me that not in many years has the prospect of success been so bright as it is this year; and that nothing but an inexcusable suicidal mistake by the Democratic party could deprive it of an overwhelming victory at the polls.

Chance For Democrats

"The division in the Republican party appears to be hopeless. With the President as a leader of one faction and the ex-President as the leader of the other, calling each other such bad names, and each exposing the ugly record of the other, it certainly ought to be apparent to the people of the country that a complete change in the national administration is seriously needed, and that the only way in which they can secure the reforms they demand is through the Democratic party.

"I have, therefore, believed that this was indeed the time when Kentucky Democrats could get together and without angry controversies or needless contests, work together for the common good.

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mon good. While, as a private citizen in the quiet pursuit of my professional business, I have felt a deep interest in the success of the party and the triumph of its principles, yet I have not even asked a friend of mine in the State to support me for any honor in the State convention, such as being a delegate to the National convention, for I have no personal ambition above party success and would cheerfully step aside for any arrangement that would further its success.

Approves State Committee

"I heartily approve the action of our State Executive Committee at its recent meeting, in the call it made for the State convention, and yet, neither directly nor indirectly, did I communicate with a single member of that committee, to advise him what I thought the committee should do. In fact, I did not know what it would do until I read of its action in the papers the next day.

"If I had influenced its proceedings I should not have had the slightest objection to its being known. The committee, knowing of the farcical and fraudulent convention and primaries in the city of Louisville, gave to the Democrats there the best method it could, under the circumstances, to have a chance to express their wishes; and I believe that the reputable Democrats of that city should organize, assert their power, and refuse to allow the Whalien-Watterson combination to name for them the delegates to the State convention. It is a grave reflection upon them and injures them in the eyes of the State Democracy to have such elements and such men in control of their organization and representing them in a state convention.

"As to my position in reference to the candidates for the presidency I can cheerfully state it, as I have stated it in conversation with my friends. I have nothing to conceal. I have always been frank with the people of Kentucky and have never once deceived them. I shall heartily support anyone of the candidates who may be nominated at Baltimore.

Favors Wilson

"In my judgment, the strongest and most available candidate for us to nominate is Woodrow Wilson. I have thought so for a long time and even favored him when Watterson was for him. And when it became known that he refused to allow himself to be bound by Watterson to Wall Street, my admiration for him became greater than ever. Then when Watterson denounced him, I was convinced that he was a clean and incorruptible man. If it should appear by the time the convention meets in Baltimore, that a stronger candidate than Gov. Wilson could be nominated, then I would prefer that candidate. I do not now consider Mr. Clark the strongest candidate.

"Mr. Bryan, in an interview not long ago, in speaking of Wilson and Clark, said: 'I have avoided expressing my preference as to those two gentlemen for several reasons. The first is that I am not clear in my own mind as to which of them would be able to poll the larger vote, and a good deal may depend upon the action of the Republican convention, that is, the course of the convention may effect the relative availability of these two candidates and I would like to have all the light I can get before expressing my opinion regarding either Gov. Wilson or speaker Clark.

"In other words, Mr. Bryan believes that where the delegates are chosen in a state convention, like ours, progressive and faithful Democrats should be selected and they should be instructed. That, I believe, is the correct position for Kentucky Democrats to take in their convention on May 29. Let them pick out reliable Democrats as delegates and send them to the National Convention without instructions.

Clark's Candidacy

"I can understand why some of the Kentucky Congressmen are so ardently for Mr. Clark for, on account of their pleasant associations with him in Congress, they are looking at him from a personal standpoint rather than from the standpoint of availability. Then, too, certain of those Congressmen were in accord with Watterson and the liquor interests in the platform convention last summer, and tried to keep the county unit plank out of the platform. The same gentlemen are still in accord with Watterson and the liquor interests, and are willing to help the latter in their effort to get control of the party organization of the State, capture the next legislature, embarrass the Democratic administration, put the liquor lobby again in control and repeal some of the temperance laws of the State.

Purpose of the Fight

"That is the whole purpose of this fight, led by Watterson and the Courier-Journal, and aided by the Congressional cabal. The Courier-Journal is the well-known organ of the liquor interests in Kentucky. It refused its support to the Democratic state ticket last fall because the county unit plank was in the platform. Every intelligent observer knows that that plank was essential to the success of the ticket.

They persist in renewing the fight, under cover, in the coming convention, and they should be rebuked for injecting that issue into the campaign. That is the reason for the bitterness of the fight upon me and upon the friends of the administration, which has failed so far the promises made to the people in the campaign last fall.

"The attempt is now made to raise a false issue among the Democrats of the State. Watterson charges that I and others have formed a deep conspiracy to wreck the Democratic party. He made identically the same charge last year, and our answer was a Democratic majority of 31,000, won not only without his aid, but with his secret opposition to the ticket.

False Prophet

"What confidence can now be placed in this same false prophet and slanderer? As a matter of fact, if the gentlemen whom he attacks were engaged in any such nefarious scheme as he describes, they would have had him as a member of the gang long ago, writing double-headed editorials, praising them as patriots instead of calling them pirates; for political history in Kentucky for the last twenty years records that wherever the money is there is always Watterson, greedy for his part of the loot, and venomous towards all of those who would deprive him of any of it. There is never a political bargain counter upon which the editorial policy of the Courier-Journal cannot be found for sale.

"I do not know whether his weakness is congenital, or whether at some time of trial he fell before some strong temptation; but we all know that, since 1896, he has, in political parlance, been classed as a thrifty floater, varying from one side to the other, according to the exigencies of his selfishness or malignancy, denouncing everyone who differed with him, and viciously libeling all of those whom he suspected of standing in the way of his ridiculous ambitions.

Watterson's Ambitions

"He now seeks to be the leader of the Democratic party in Kentucky and is a candidate for a place as delegate-at-large to the National convention, notwithstanding his denials. He has already served notice that he will not support one of the leading candidates for the Democratic nomination for President—Gov. Wilson of New Jersey—if the latter is nominated, and he undoubtedly reserves the right to refuse his support to any other candidate who might be nominated. He was for Gov. Wilson some months ago, and we have all learned why he withdrew his support from him.

"He now says he is for Mr. Clark, and I have no doubt that if he and Col. George Harvey should be unable to connect Mr. Clark with their friend, Mr. Thomas F. Ryan, the Democratic money man of 'big business' in New York, he would just as promptly withdraw his support from him, and denounce him in language equally as abusive as he used about Gov. Wilson. He must be flattered, cajoled and favored to keep his Democracy up to the sticking point. The price of his continued allegiance to any man or to any party is exhausting to the patience or pocketbook of any man or any party. It is impossible that the intelligent Democrats of Kentucky would think of placing such a man in a position where he could again betray them, as he has so often done in the past.

Regrets Controversy

"I regret exceedingly that I should be called upon to speak so plainly and truthfully about this man; but his slanderous attacks upon me in his paper, and his assumption of leadership of the party which he has so often betrayed, demand that a true picture of the man be set before the public. I believe with all my heart the he, with his paper, has done incalculable harm to the progress and to the good name of Kentucky. His skill as a writer has made him all the more dangerous. He has never stood for any good or moral cause in our State. He has invariably appeared as the advocate and champion of the criminal elements. He is the degenerate composite of the characters of Pecksniff and Falstaff. Although he has reached that age, when the sunset of life is supposed to soften with its gentle glow the asperities and bitterness of human character, he is more vindictive and malevolent, if possible, than ever before.

"Coming to Kentucky long after he had reached maturity he has boasted and advertised himself abroad as a typical Kentuckian; and it causes the blush of shame to come back to the cheek of any loyal son of the old Commonwealth to hear strangers ever speak of such a man as representing the chivalrous manhood and lovely womanhood of Kentucky, such as the reckless and irresponsible slanderer that attacks my good name.

"J. C. W. BECKHAM.
"Frankfort, Ky., May 1, 1912."

Putting On And Off.

What a lot of style the Browns are putting on."

"Yes, and what a lot of creditors they are putting off."—Boston Transcript.

ARMY OFFICERS ROUTED FROM THEIR EASY BERTHS.

Twenty-two Ordered by Secretary of War to Join Troops.

Twenty-two army officers who have been stationed in Washington for years, including one of the rank of brigadier general, have been ordered by the secretary of war to join troops.

The order came as a great surprise, because there had been no hint that such a move was contemplated. The rule is that every four years an army officer must serve two years with troops. However, there have been various ways of eluding the four year rule. In some instances the presence of certain officers has been deemed necessary at the capital because of their efficiency in the lines of executive work to which they have been assigned.

In other instances "pull" has been able to keep officers in Washington who preferred the social and club life there to some post not having most of the joys for a pleasure loving soldier. Some of the men assigned to join troops have been in Washington twelve years and have well established homes there, while most of the others have been away from troops five to seven years. Here is the list of those ordered to troop duty:

Brigadier General W. W. Witherspoon, Major Johnson Hagood, general staff; Captain Charles D. Rhodes, general staff; Captain James A. Moss, Twenty-fourth infantry; Captain Stanley D. Embick, general staff; Major Paul F. Straub, general staff; Major R. E. Callan, coast artillery; Captain P. P. Bishop, coast artillery; Captain James A. Logan, Jr., subsistence department; Lieutenant Colonel John T. Knight, quartermaster department; Lieutenant Colonel David S. Stanley, quartermaster department; Major Frank B. Cheatham, quartermaster department; Major A. B. Brewster, inspector general; Lieutenant Colonel John T. Thompson, ordnance department; Major J. H. Rice, ordnance department; Lieutenant Colonel George F. Downey, pay department; Lieutenant Colonel W. D. McCaw, medical department; Lieutenant Colonel M. W. Ireland, medical department; Major F. S. Russell, medical department; Colonel H. P. McCain, adjutant general; Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin Alvord, adjutant general; Lieutenant Colonel John Biddle Porter, judge advocate.

Appointed Postmaster.

Beavin B. Henninger has been appointed post-master at West View in this county and is an efficient man for the place.

PASSING OF REVERE HOUSE.

Boston Hotel Had Housed Many Celebrated Personages.

No hotel in Boston and few in the United States are richer in associations than the Revere House, which was recently destroyed by fire. Here stayed in the heyday of the hotel's popularity visiting royalty, famous statesmen and soldiers and some of the prima donnas who charmed a generation of Bostonians now dead.

The Revere House was named after the famous Boston patriot Paul Revere. It was opened on May 19, 1847, as the most sumptuous hotel Boston had had up to that time. The ballroom and the banquet halls were regarded as models of splendor and of convenience. Parson Stevens, one of the best known hotel men of the time and the landlord of the Tremont House, was at its head.

It was patronized by Webster, Cleveland, Adeline Patti, Christine Nilsson, Emperor Pedro of Brazil, King Kalakaua of the Hawaiian Islands, Admiral Mohammed Pasha of the Turkish navy, his imperial highness the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia and Generals Grant, Sherman and Sheridan.

Here, too, in 1860, stayed Prince Albert of Wales, the future King Edward VII. of England. One of the rooms in the hotel had ever since been set aside, faded in its decorations, but rich in its associations. It was the room Prince Albert occupied.

EACH GOLD PLATE AN ALARM.

New Burglar Device Protects Hotel's Famous Service.

The owner of one of the big New York hotels, who is an electrical engineer and the inventor of several electrical burglar protection devices now in use, has perfected and installed in his hotel a new device for protecting the gold service of the hotel.

This service is valued at several thousand dollars and consists of various pieces of glass and gold filigree work, as well as solid plate. It is inclosed in numerous cabinets, which up to this time have had but the protection of lock and key.

The device installed is so arranged that the lifting of any single piece will ring an alarm bell in the housekeeper's room in the main office and in the rooms of all the watchmen. The shelves upon which the goldware rests are balanced upon a sort of spring, which is set to a certain weight. The removal of any of the weight, however slight, connects the alarm circuit and sets the warning gongs ringing.

Gets Good Price For Hay.

John K. Ditto, of Brandenburg, sold seventeen and a half tons of hay in Louisville for \$25.50 a ton. He said during the war he sold hay at \$40 a ton.

Meeting Sorrow.

Courage for the great sorrows of life and patience for the small ones, and then when you have accomplished your daily task go sleep in peace. God is awake.—Victor Hugo.

Mr. Blank's Mistake

"I made a bad mistake today" said Blank to his wife. "I went to pay that subscription to the daily, which was \$5. I found out afterwards that I had handed the agent a \$10 bill and didn't notice it until he was gone—guess he didn't either. I suppose that fellow is honest and I'll get my money back, but it'll be some trouble."

"I've been telling you" said his wife "that you should deposit your money in the bank and then pay by check. Then you won't be making such mistakes and having so much trouble."

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